

Message Text

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10

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 /088 W

----- 028376

R 100604Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7868

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

USUN 542

UNCLAS ABIDJAN 3467

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IV, RH

SUBJECT: BISHOP MUZOREWA TRANSITS IVORY COAST

1. LEADER OF EXTERNAL WING OF ANC BISHOP ABEL MUZOREWA TRANSITED IVORY COAST APRIL 7-8. MUZOREWA ARRIVED FROM KAMPALA WHERE HE SAID HE HAD HELD DISCUSSIONS WITH OAU PRESIDENT IDI AMIN. MUZOREWA WAS GREETED AT PLANESIDE BY MFA CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AND WAS RECEIVED APRIL 8 BY FOREIGN MINISTER USHER.

2. RESPONDING TO REPORTERS QUESTIONS, MUZOREWA MADE THE FOLLOWING POINTS:

A) THE ONLY REMAINING SOLUTION TO THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM IS ARMED FORCE SINCE IAN SMITH HAS DEMONSTRATED HIS UNWILLINGNESS TO NEGOTIATE. THIS WAS EVIDENT TO THE ANC LEADER SINCE THE VICTORIA FALLS MEETING LAST SEPTEMBER AND HAS SINCE BECOME EVIDENT TO THE JOSHUA NKOMO FACTION. MUZOREWA SAID HE HAS NEVER STOPPED ENCOURAGING NKOMO TO REJOIN THE MAJORITY OF THE ANC MOVEMENT OF WHICH HE (MUZOREWA) IS THE LEADER.

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B) QUESTIONED ON HIS ATTITUDE TOWARD DIALOGUE, MUZOREWA SAID THAT HIS PEAPOLE HAD CONCLUDED THAT RECOURSE TO FORCE OF ARMS WAS NOW THE ONLY WAY OF SOLVING THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM BUT HE LEFT THE DOOR VERY SLIGHTLY OPEN TO THE POSSIBILITY OF DIALOGUE AT A LATER STAGE.

C) MUZOREWA ENDED BY PREDICTING THAT THE IAN SMITH REGIME WOULD BE BROUGHT DOWN WITHIN NINE MONTHS.

3. MUZOREWA DEPARTED ABIDJAN FOR ACCRA APRIL 8.
SMITH

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NNN

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